

NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the Time."

Something like a revival of the dry goods trade was experienced in New York last week; but it was rather an indication of a good time coming than the actual realization of such an event. There were considerable purchases of prints for California, and a few customers from the West made their appearance; but an unusual degree of caution is manifested by the jobbers.

The internal revenue returns of the sales of several of the leading houses indicate the general business depression in New York, in the past six months. The sales of Messrs. H. B. Claffin & Co. last year were less than fifty millions of dollars, and those of Mr. A. T. Stewart, in the wholesale department, were a little more than thirty-two millions—a falling off of more than one third from the sales of 1866.

The house of E. C. Hewlings, on Walnut street, Philadelphia, was entered by burglars yesterday morning. Mr. Hewlings shot one of them in the leg, and cut the other in the abdomen. Both of the intruders escaped. The one who was stabbed was found in the hospital this morning. His name is Burns. His injuries, it is thought, are fatal.

The New York Journal of Commerce says the amount of poverty in that city is very great, and that the suffering from this cause has not been equalled for a long time. Large numbers of laboring men would cheerfully engage to labor if promised no more than the means of subsistence.

The steamer Arizona, from Aspinwall, South America, and Rio de Janeiro, brings \$959,000 in specie. She brings advices from Sydney and Wellington, Australia, and New Zealand. The punishment of the murderers of Rev. Mr. Baker and party, at Feejee, had been left to the native chiefs.

Two gentlemen of the British Legation, from Mexico, now sojourning on board the steam corvette Jason, off New York, got wedged in the ice in a rowboat yesterday, and were carried out to sea. Search is being made for them.

A superb set of silver is now on exhibition in New York, which is to be presented to Cyrus W. Field, by George Peabody. It bears an inscription in testimony and commemoration of an act of very high integrity and honor.

It is officially stated to the State Department at Washington, that the cholera has made its appearance at Belize in a malignant form. It is also stated that it prevails at all the forts along the coast.

The storm in New York, on Tuesday, was the severest of the season. The ice in the harbor is increasing in quantity and thickness; so much so that navigation is at times almost suspended.

The President has caused Mr. John P. Hale, our Minister to Spain, to be notified that his resignation will be accepted. Some correspondence has ensued, but Mr. Hale has not yet availed himself of the opportunity to resign.

The first of the Southern elections will take place on the 4th of February, in Alabama, when the new constitution is to be voted on, and Congressmen and State officers elected.

Santa Anna, it is reported, is anxious to raise a loan in New York to enable him to fight Mexico. The old man is always in mischief.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

Judge Christian has granted a charter to Joseph R. Anderson, of Richmond; Frederick W. Wolcott, of New York city; David Hoadly of New York; Charles P. Stone, of Dover, Va. and Leslie Chase, of New York, to form a company under the name and style of the Western Iron Company, for the purpose of manufacturing iron. The capital stock is \$100,000, with the right to increase it to \$500,000, to be divided into shares of \$100 each. The company will hold real estate to the amount of 2,000 acres in the county of Augusta, 5000 in Rockbridge, 500 in Henrico, 500 in Appomattox, 2,000 in Amherst, and 2,000 in Nelson.

We understand that there will be agents in Danville this year charged with the duty of buying leaf tobacco for large establishments in several northern and western cities. They will represent a large amount of capital, and come to purchase an immense quantity of the weed.

Freight is transported by the line of the O. & A. R. R. direct to Richmond, Alexandria, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, without change of cars, at rates as low as by any competing line, and with greater dispatch.

A gentleman in Petersburg, has donated to the widow of a soldier in that city, (who by the fortunes of war was left with four children and houseless), a handsome cottage residence with garden attached, valued at \$2,250.

Gen. Grant left Richmond for Washington to-day.

Gen. Schofield gives an entertainment to the Peabody trustees in Richmond last night.

Va. "Reconstruction" Convention.

A telegraphic dispatch from Richmond says: "Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, made a brief address to the Convention yesterday. [We wait to see how Bishop McIlvaine got into that ring.]"

In the Convention the proposed article of the bill of rights declaring Virginia coequal with other States, was defeated.

LOUDOUN COUNTY ITEMS.—The special term of the Circuit Court for Loudoun county, Judge Thomas presiding, commenced its session on Monday. On Tuesday morning the Judge rendered his decision in the case of Beamer vs. Luckett, which was argued at the last term of the Court. This case was brought by the creditors of Sanford I. Ramey to set aside a deed made by him, during the war, to Charles F. Fadyly conveying a valuable farm in this county, in consideration of \$70,000, Confederate money, upon the ground that the consideration was grossly inadequate, that it left Ramey insolvent, that its acknowledgment was before Justices whose offices were vacated by rebellion, and because the deed was not duly stamped. The Judge upon an elaborate and able review of the whole case, decided in favor of Fadyly upon every point raised.

The ladies, assisted by the gentlemen, in Leesburg, are having Tableaux and Charades, for the benefit of the poor.

Rev. Mr. Munsey preached twice in Leesburg last Sunday, to large congregations. His efforts are spoken of in the highest terms.

Mr. A. Buckner, sold last week 700 acres of land, near the Gum Spring, in this county, for \$3,000, to Mr. Hartwell, a northern man.

A Building Association has been formed in Leesburg.

Col. Joseph V. Bemusdaffer, a native of Loudoun county, Va., has been nominated by the Democratic State Convention of Indiana, as the Democratic candidate for State Auditor.

The death of Mr. Neill, of Missouri, late a member of the House of Representatives, was announced in both Houses of Congress, yesterday, and after eulogies by several members, appropriate resolutions of respect for the memory of the deceased were passed.

Scene in House of Representatives.

The House, on yesterday, resumed the consideration of the bill heretofore reported from the committee on public lands by Mr. Julian, of Indiana, to forfeit to the U. S. certain lands heretofore granted for railroad purposes.

Mr. Julian proceeded to address the House in favor of the bill, insisting that the Southern railroad companies had forfeited all claims upon the United States by the acts of rebellion of their officers. He intended to review the action and course of the several railroad companies of the South, and referred to the alleged treasonable acts of the officers of the Opelousas Railroad in Louisiana matter was before another committee.

Mr. Chanler, of New York, rising to a point of order, said the gentleman should confine himself to the question before the House, and not wander off into a discussion of the Southern railroad interests. This was a bill in relation to land grants, and the Opelousas railroad.

The Speaker decided the point not well taken, and that Mr. Julian was in order.

Mr. Chanler was about to proceed, when Mr. Julian declined to yield, and told Mr. Chanler to compose his soul with as much patience as he could under the exposition that he (Mr. Julian) had given of the gentleman's (Mr. Chanler's) rebel friends in Louisiana.

Mr. Chanler.—This is the words of a coward, and the gentleman takes advantage of his position, as I cannot reply to him.

The Speaker called Mr. Chanler to order.

Mr. Chanler.—I call the gentleman from Indiana to order, and demand that the words last spoken by him be taken down.

Mr. Chanler was about to say something further, but was called to order, and the Speaker said the words would be taken down.

Mr. C. was at this time occupying the seat of Mr. Morell, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Williams, of Pennsylvania, made the point of order that the gentleman from New York must take his seat.

Mr. Chanler, (moving to his own seat.) I simply went over there to hear better what the gentleman said.

The words purporting to have been uttered by Mr. Chanler were here read.

Mr. Chanler.—Mr. Speaker, I desire to say that all my words have not been taken down. I also said that—

The Speaker.—The gentleman is out of order.

Mr. Chanler.—I want to say that I said the gentleman was taking advantage of his position in the remarks he uttered.

The Speaker.—The Chair will now rule upon the words spoken by the gentleman from New York. They are clearly out of order. No member upon the floor should call another a coward.

The Chair did not hear the last part of the gentleman's remark. What struck the Chair as unparliamentary was the word coward.

Mr. Chanler.—Well, I did say that, and he is one.

Calls to order from all parts of the House.

Mr. Julian.—If the gentleman means what he says, he can test the question at any time.

Mr. Chanler.—I will do so, sir. I will take the earliest opportunity. I would ask the Speaker how he ruled upon the remarks of the gentleman from Indiana?

The Speaker.—No point of order was made upon the last remark.

Mr. Chanler said he had made a point of order upon the remarks of Mr. Julian.

The Speaker.—The Chair has not ruled upon the remarks of the gentleman from Indiana, but upon those of the gentleman from New York. [Laughter.] The Chair would say, however, although the subject was passed, that there was nothing unparliamentary in the remarks of the gentleman from Indiana.

Congress.

The Senate, yesterday, agreed to the report of the conference committee on the bill suspending further contraction of the currency. The bill now goes to the President. By a vote of 25 to 18 the committee of conference on the cotton tax bill were instructed to recede from the Senate amendments and to agree to the provision for the admission of imported cotton free of duty. The judiciary committee was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of the Grand Council of the Union League of Maryland asking that the reconstruction laws be extended to that State. The resolution to admit Senator Thomas, of Maryland, to his seat, led to another long debate, in which several Senators participated. No vote was taken, as was anticipated. The subject will probably be disposed of to-day.

The House agreed to the Senate's amendments to the deficiency bill, and added a new one. A large number of new bills and resolutions were introduced and read. The committee on education was directed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law a general system of education in the late rebellious States, and to provide for a number of common schools sufficient for the education of all classes, without distinction of race or color.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill to forfeit to the government certain lands heretofore granted to the Southern States for railroad purposes. During a brief debate an exciting scene ensued between Mr. Julian, of Indiana, and Mr. Chanler, of New York. Language, of a violent character was used, and threats made of seeking satisfaction elsewhere.

REV. MR. POTTER.—Rev. Henry C. Potter has accepted the call of Grace Church in New York at a salary of \$10,000 and rectory. Mr. Potter is a man of fine talents, and at an age considerably under thirty steps into one of the most desirable rectorships in this country. The salary and rectory are together more than that of Rev. Beecher. Mr. Potter has the prestige of a strong family name in addition to his own talents. He is the son of the late Bishop of Pennsylvania, Rev. Alonzo Potter; nephew of Bishop Horatio Potter of New York and grandson of the late President of the Union College at Seneca Falls. The late bishop Alonzo Potter left a family of sons whose gifts and distinctions are of a high order. Robert Potter was a general in the national army, was wounded at Roanoke, and is managing a large railroad in Pennsylvania. Eliphalet Potter is an Episcopal clergyman in Pennsylvania, and has recently been instrumental in establishing a large seminary at Bethlehem, Pa., and obtained for it an endowment of \$500,000. Howard Potter is a member of the well known banking house of Brown Brothers & Co., and Clarkson Potter is a prominent commercial lawyer of this city.—N. Y. Mail.

THE PEABODY FUND.—At a meeting of the Peabody Fund Trustees, in Richmond yesterday, the following resolution offered by General Grant, was adopted: "That in view of the present destitution prevailing in the Southern and Southwestern States, it is in the opinion of this board, expedient that the executive committee and the general agent be authorized, in conformity to the permission granted by Mr. Peabody, to expend forty per cent of the principal of the fund, in addition to the accrued interest, and that as large a portion of said sum not exceeding \$200,000, be expended during the current year as in their judgment can be advantageously used in promoting the object of the trust; and the authority of the board is hereby given to such appropriation."

Another resolution was adopted, giving the general agent authority to increase the sum already promised for education and make payments quarterly or semi-annually. The board then adjourned, to meet at New York on the third Thursday of June next.

TREATMENT OF LABORERS IN VIRGINIA.

"It will require years for the negro to learn the art of citizenship, we fear it would also require years for the people of the South to learn how to treat white servants and employees. They will not stand the usage the negro is used to, but must have to have at home. Therefore, it is not to be wondered at that they should murmur at pork and corn meal, a blanket for a bed, and a small negro cabin for a dwelling place."

One would suppose, from reading the above extract from the Richmond Register, that the laboring class of England and of Europe generally, was accustomed to "comforts at home" which they did not enjoy in the South. In fact, it is so stated. But the reverse is true, especially in England, and the condition of this class is not so far from Ireland and Germany, whence we derive chiefly, indeed almost exclusively, our foreign labor immigration. The article in the Register was written for the purpose of discouraging immigration to Virginia, and that will be its tendency.

The Register writes as if the condition of the European laboring classes was far above that which has existed in the South. We know what it is in Ireland and Germany, and we have only to refer to the London Quarterly Review, if that were necessary, for an account of their condition in England. We give some extracts:

"Little girls are employed in bellows blowing for fourteen hours a day, standing on platforms to enable them to reach the handles of the bellows. The children who work at home in the various domestic manufactures, are so injured by premature labor, that commencing from the age of seven, that as a rule, they are stunted, dwarfed, and deformed."

In the agricultural districts it is said:

"The situation of the cottages in some of the rural districts is most lamentable. Their narrow dwellings barely suffice shelter to inmates, and in cases of large families they crowd together in a place of imperfect ventilation and insufficient food, prove fruitful resources of pestilence and disease. In such cases, the narrow tenement forbids the possibility of separating the sick from the well, the parents from the children, or the children from each other; that miserable economy in fitting up the cottages, which so generally has denied the only bed-room either a fire-place or a window to ventilate the air, the noise of querulous children, the stench of confined air, rendered epidemic by morbid effluvia; the vermin too frequently swarming on the bodies and rags of the wretched inhabitants; all these causes acting together periculate affliction, prevent a return to health, and indicate a depth of misery which it is hardly possible to endure. Such, with a few exceptions, is the state of more than a million of human beings in England alone."

Again:

"And this distress arises not so much from sickness, illness, or prodigality, as from the absolute impossibility which a day laborer finds in supporting his family by his daily wages. The poor scarcely know what it is to eat meat, and yet depending with that material requisite for comfort, does not enable them to keep their families together in such a hut as we have described."

When was the usage of laborers at the South such as this? "Pork and corn meal, a blanket for a bed, and a small negro cabin for a dwelling place," quotha. If such misery and destitution "of more than a million of human beings in England alone" have been characterized as "the comforts they have been accustomed to at home," no wonder the emigrant ships are filled with laborers seeking our shores!—N. York Journal.

LOUDBON COUNTY ORGANIZATION.—Agreeably to a call previously made, a meeting of Conservative citizens of Loudoun assembled at the Courthouse on Monday last, for the purpose of effecting an organization of the Conservative voters of the county, under the plan proposed by the late State Convention. The object of the meeting was stated by Major Chas. B. Ball, and upon his motion, Benj. F. Taylor, esq., was called to the Chair, and Wm. B. Lynch and B. F. Sheets, appointed Secretaries.

The meeting having been organized, Major Ball offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of twenty, composed of two from each Magisterial District, be appointed by the Chair, whose duty it shall be to carry into effect, in Loudoun county, the plan of organization proposed by the late Conservative State Convention of Virginia.

The following is the Committee called for in the above resolution:

Leesburg.—George K. Fox, Thos. W. Edwards.

Gum Spring.—Beverly Hutchison, Jas. H. Palmer.

Aldie and Middleburg.—Wm. Berkley, A. L. Rogers.

Jones.—Newton Keene, Benj. Bridges.

Union.—F. Furr, H. Frazier.

Snickersville.—Meshack Silcott, Townsend Osburn.

Hillsborough.—Josiah B. Taylor, Jas. Kilgour.

Lovettsville.—William Wenner, A. T. M. Filler.

Purellville.—George W. Noland, Rodney Purell.

Waterford.—A. M. Vandevanter, Wm. C. Paxson.

Mt. Giload.—Sam. Simpson, Thomas E. Taylor.

The Committee is requested to meet in Leesburg on Monday, the 1st day of February, for the purpose of selecting committees for the several districts of the county.

WASHINGTON ITEMS.—In the Senate yesterday, the bill presented by Mr. Harlan to provide for the relief of the poor of the city was amended by inserting \$15,000, in lieu of \$25,000, and, as amended, was passed. The amount appropriated is to be distributed under the direction of Maj. Gen. Howard, of the Freedmen's Bureau.

The contractor for taking down the old Penitentiary building having failed to abide by the terms of the contract made, it is now proposed to employ a competent force—comprising an equal number of whites and blacks—who will be under the general management of General Ramsey, the commandant, and Major Wythe, the paymaster of the Arsenal.

The sale of single tickets for the Dickens' readings commenced yesterday morning at Messrs. Philp & Solomon's bookstore. Nearly the whole of them have been disposed of, and it is believed that all will be sold to-day.

On Monday evening, Warden Huestis, of the jail, left the city for Albany, New York, taking with him, under guard, a number of prisoners who have been sentenced to imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary. Among these was George McCauley, the overcoat thief, and would-be-murderer, who has been sentenced to thirteen years' imprisonment.

GRAND LODGE I. O. O. F.—The twenty-sixth of April next is the anniversary of this charitable order, as established in the United States, and all Grand Lodges and Encampments are requested to urge their subordinate to observe the day in some appropriate mode.

DIED.

At the "Woodyard," near Marlboro', Md., on the 15th instant, Mrs. MARIA LLOYD WEST, the venerable wife of the late Richard West and daughter of the late Gov. Edward Lloyd, of Talbot county, Md., aged 85 years.

LAND SALE.

Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of Fairfax county, rendered at the June term 1867, in the suit of W. E. Moore vs. Sidney G. Miller, the undersigned, Commissioners, named in said decree, will on the 17th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1868, at 10 o'clock, sell, to the highest bidder, before the front door of Fairfax Court House, a TRACT OF LAND, containing 115 acres. This land lies immediately to the A. & F. H. R. R., about 11 miles from Falls Church Depot, and adjoins the lands of Marce, Pollock, and others.

TERMS OF SALE, as directed by the Court: One-fourth cash in hand, as a deposit, liable to be forfeited and the land resold at the risk of the purchaser, upon condition by the Court: the residue in three equal installments at six, twelve and eighteen months, with interest from the day of sale, to be secured by the notes of the purchaser, and a retention of the title until the last payment is made. Costs of conveyance and stamps to be paid by the purchaser.

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Letter from Fairfax County.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

An entire dearth of news in this quarter of our Military District has prevented my communicating with you for a long time. I have not the same advantages as your diligent correspondent in Loudoun. We have no interesting statistics of land sales, &c. to report. Some coarse sales were advertised for our Jan. term Court, just past, and as far as I have been able to learn, but one of them was made. The lands were offered, but there were either no bidders, or the offers were so meagre that they were not accepted. The fact is our political status is so rickety that men do not like to invest in real estate, or to make their homes in this locality just now. When Smith has fully done constitutionalizing the State, "according to the tenets of the Constitution," and has made all (including his per diem) out of Old Virginia's de-lated soil then we may expect a revival in these matters. Certainly there is every inducement to settlers to stop among us here. Our soil is very improvable, and will amply reward culture, and we have all natural advantages and propinquity to markets.

There was nothing of interest transacted at Court. Several criminals are awaiting trial, but the late decision of Judge Moncre in the Matthews case, (tried and convicted according to the terms of the late act of the Assembly, and sentenced to be hung for murder), has brought things to a halt, and the Commonwealth's Attorney will wait for a Grand Jury, and proceed according to the Constitution of the U. S. in the cases now on hand, for fear Judge Moncre's decision may be sustained, and the late criminal law declared unconstitutional, which provides for trial for felonies without indictment. So you see we still enjoy the blessed provisions of the U. S. (as well as other cases).

An old bed-ridden colored man named Lewis Curtis, was consumed by fire, on Friday last, on the late Dr. Hunter's farm, near here, together with his cabin. A man who stayed with him had left the cabin, and it is supposed his bed caught from a spark. Both head and it were totally consumed. A forcible reminder that we are passing away, and so passes away all the stock of news in the possession of your friend.

FAIRFAX C. H., January 22nd, 1868.

Foreign News.

The causes leading to George Train's arrest, are these: An Englishman named Goe, a fellow-passenger of Mr. Train, informed the officers on the tug which boarded the Scotia at Queenstown, that Mr. Train had said that he came to Ireland for the purpose of organizing the Fenians and commencing a fight. Train was arrested upon this information. Goe denied that he had given such information, when he was in court. Mr. Eastman, the U. S. Consul at Queenstown, was exceedingly severe in Mr. Train's behalf. Mr. Adams, the U. S. Minister, at once saw Lord Stanley, who, on his representation, ordered the release of Mr. Train. Lord Stanley disavowed the act on the part of the Government, and stated that the local authorities were solely responsible for it. Mr. Adams' prompt action secured Mr. Train's speedy release.

The discussion of the Alabama claims has recently been revived in the English journals. Lord Hobart has written two able letters to the Times, in which he sustains the position taken by the U. S. Government on the subject. The writer "Historian" and the London Times editorially reply to Lord Hobart's arguments. Some of these replies are moderate and conciliatory.

The report which has been so extensively circulated that Russia was sending troops to the southern frontier, is untrue. The Russian Government, in an official note, denies the rumor.

Advices from China state that tea is dull.

Senator Patterson, of New Hampshire, introduced a bill on Tuesday providing that no general or special agents of the President, or of any department or branch of the Government shall be appointed or continued in office, except such as are authorized by statutes specifying their character, number, and salaries; and, also, that the term of office of all the agents lastly employed at the time of the passage of this act is to expire within thirty days thereafter; and, also, that henceforth such agents are to be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The shipbuilders in Quebec after a "strike," succumbed; and now receive less wages than they did before their foolish "strike."

COMMERCIAL.

Alexandria Market, January 23, '68.

The market remains without noticeable change, though there would seem to be a little better feeling. In Flour we have no change to note, transactions being very light. For good Wheat there is some enquiry, with sales of red at 70. Corn has improved, and prices show an advance of 1/2c, the sales reaching 3522 bushels at 10 1/2c. Rye in fair request, with sales at 152. Oats quiet, and we heard of no sales above 70c. Dressed Hogs in fair request, and Poultry in good demand, at yesterday's quotations.

BALTIMORE MARKET, January 22.—Wheat.—With very meagre offerings, and a somewhat better inquiry, the market was firm to-day. There was a choice Southern at market.

Corn.—There was more activity in the market to-day, and prices for yellow were rather better. Considerable sales of prime yellow and Western mixed were made at 120 delivered at the point, and at 115 1/2c for up-town delivery.

Rye.—The market continues dull at about yesterday's rates. A. & F. H. R. R., about 11 miles from Falls Church Depot, and adjoins the lands of Marce, Pollock, and others.

Oats.—The market remains dull, though there is more enquiry.

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